

8/10/11

AGENDA FOR THE AUGUST 17, 2011 MEETING OF THE WESTON COMMISSION FOR CHARTER REVISION

This meeting will be devoted to organizational and procedural issues – specifically as set forth below. Minutes for prior meetings will also be submitted for approval.

ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES FOR THE COMMISSION

1. Framework for Evaluating each Article of the Charter
 - a) What does the Article mean (plain English summary).
 - b) If relevant, how is it actually administered?
 - c) How much flexibility do we have to amend the Article under applicable law?
 - d) How do other Towns handle this issue?
 - e) What comments have we received from the public?
 - f) Are there any changes we'd recommend to the Article?
2. Procedural Questions
 - a) Should all of our meetings be televised?
 - b) There are really two separate tracks, which often intersect....
 - 1) substantive changes to Charter provisions
 - 2) rewrite for clarity or better grammarCan we pursue both simultaneously – i.e. rewrite as we go as opposed to at the end of the process?
 - c) Do we delegate certain issues to small groups?
 - d) Do we organize our review thematically or by Article?
 - e) How do we research legal issues? Is there a State Model Charter?
 - f) Which other Towns do we want to focus on for comparative purposes?
 - g) Can we alert the public (via agenda posting or otherwise) as to the content to be discussed at the next meeting?
 - h) Do we allow the public a period of time, after each meeting, to comment on the topic(s) we have been discussing?
 - i) How can the public most effectively give us comments?